

Town of Royalston
Board of Selectmen's Meeting
Tuesday, September 6, 2005
7:00 p.m.

Present: Werner Bundschuh, Chairman; Thomas Kellner, Clerk; and Andrew West, Member.

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bundschuh.
2. The minutes of the 8/16/05 meeting were read. Mr. West made a motion to accept the minutes with two corrections. Mr. Kellner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.
3. Acknowledgements/Announcements/Correspondence:
 - a) Ethan Stone was present to request the use of the Town Hall on Wednesday, 9/14/05 from 7 – 10 p.m. for a concert to benefit the After Prom Party. He stated that members of the After Prom Committee would be willing to supervise. Light refreshments may be served. Mr. West made a motion to approve the use of the Town Hall and to waive the fee. He then amended his motion to approve the request but not to waive the fee of \$75. Mr. Kellner seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor.
 - b) Mr. West read the Statement of Values for insurance all town buildings, as submitted by Kimball Cooke Insurance. Mr. Kellner made a motion to sign the statement of values and to pay the accompanying invoice. Mr. West seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The renewal of the bond for the Tax Collector was also signed with a motion made by Mr. West, seconded by Mr. Kellner, and passed with a unanimous vote.
 - c) The Board is in receipt of a letter from the Whitney Hall Committee stating that they are interested in receiving information on grants and other funding for improvements in accordance with ADA regulations. Mr. Kellner made a motion to voice the Board's support in this endeavor. Mr. West seconded the motion, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.
 - d) Linda Alger sent a letter to the Board regarding the replication of the Riverside Cemetery gate. Mr. West spoke with Ms. Alger and told her that he is initiating a move to get private and public funding for this project.
 - e) The SRIC has request that valve covers be replaced now that paving has been completed.
 - f) Discussion was held regarding National Incident Management System training to be held at the fire station on 9/19/05. This is mandatory training for listed town officials in order for the town to receive certain funding. Follow up on this training will be placed on the next agenda.
 - g) Gary Winitzer presented the Board with a letter suggesting that they look into the town's apportionment to the school district and how the district spends money. He feels that the school committee is not following the regional agreement because they are not providing all required information to the town. Mr. West made a motion to send a letter to the School Committee requesting the information outlined in Mr. Winitzer's letter. There was no second to the motion. Mr. Bundschuh stated that he wanted to review the letter further before making a

decision. Discussion was held regarding an Ad Hoc Committee formed approximately a year ago to review the regional agreement, in which the Board decided not to participate. Mr. West will investigate the make-up the Ad Hoc Committee further.

4. The Board presented a Commendation and Letter of Recognition to K9 Amber and trainers Sgt. Roland Hamel and Officer Sherry Miner.

5. Department Head Reports:

a) DPW –

- 1) Keith Newton requested that the Board sign off on Chapter 90 documents for paving of Jarvanpaa Road. Mr. Bundschuh stated that he would like Mr. Newton to come before the Board earlier to discuss planned road projects. Mr. Newton said that he checks all criteria, considers complaints received from residents, and has prepared a priority list.
- 2) The cost for repair of the grader is approaching \$15,000. The grader is a necessary piece of equipment, as there is approximately 28 miles of gravel roadway to maintain out of 78 total miles in town. Mr. Newton stated that the cost of a new grader would be approximately \$150,000. He has spoken with members of the Finance Committee regarding this expenditure.
- 3) Discussion was held on what type of guardrails the Board would like to use on School Street. Mr. Bundschuh asked that Mr. Newton proceed with the use of wood guardrails with steel backing as far as the grant money carries him.
- 4) Mr. Newton is working on the request for qualifications for the engineering study for the Route 32 project. The request will be placed in the Central Register as soon as possible.

b) Police Department –

- 1) Chief Deveneau expressed his thanks to the Board for the recognition and continued support of the K9 program.
- 2) Firearms recertification will be completed next week. A thank you was given to the Winchendon Rod & Gun Club for use of their property for the firearms program.
- 3) Speeding vehicles and mailbox damage has recently been reported on Old Turnpike Road. The department is patrolling the area more frequently.
- 4) Officer Miner has recently completed a two-week training and is now certified as a DARE Officer and School Resource Officer.

6. Old Business:

- a) Village School Lease – Rise Richardson has requested that the lease be renewed for a two-year period. She stated that she thought a 25% increase was large because they have taken on the maintenance of the building. Mr. Kellner stated

that property values in the area have increased 50% and there has not been an increase in rent. The town is looking at a new roof eventually and possibly replacing the heating system. We should charge fair market value. He would entertain negotiating a 20% increase. Mr. Bundschuh said that the building is an expense to the town. The town has agreed to pay \$4000 for a filter system, with a net loss of \$1000. He made a motion to extend the lease for two years. Mr. Kellner seconded the motion. Ms. Richardson said that tuition covers 70% of operating the school. There are currently 48 students. They are in the early stages of a capital campaign to build a new school. The vote on Mr. Bundschuh's motion was Mr. Kellner and Mr. Bundschuh, yes; with Mr. West abstaining. Ms. Richardson asked about paperwork for the water system that must be signed by Mr. Bundschuh. She will get another copy and bring it back.

7. New Business:

- a) Stephen Frizzell – MOC: Mr. Kellner will contact Mr. Frizzell to get more information about what is involved in this appointment and what MOC's (Montachusett Opportunity Council) involvement in the community is.

8. The Treasury Warrant was signed.

At 9:10 p.m., Mr. Kellner made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss strategy with request to collective bargaining. The regular meeting will resume only for adjournment. Mr. West seconded the motion, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.

At 9:27 p.m., Mr. West made a motion to adjourn from the regular meeting. Mr. Kellner seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Minutes recorded by Diana Newton.

